

conveyance pipeline. The covered area consists of approximately 22 river miles, within the Santa Clara River watershed, of cottonwood-willow, transitional riparian, alluvial sage scrub, oak woodland, upland scrub, and aquatic habitat, which provides suitable habitat for the unarmored threespine stickleback, arroyo toad, California red-legged frog, Santa Ana sucker, western spadefoot, two-striped garter snake, and western pond turtle. The covered area has no designated critical habitat for the covered species. The HCP includes measures to minimize take of the covered species in the form of injury and mortality. Mitigation for unavoidable take of the species consists of creating, restoring, and enhancing up to 40 acres of cottonwood-willow, transitional riparian, alluvial sage scrub, oak woodland, upland scrub, and aquatic habitat.

#### Our Preliminary Determination

The Service made a preliminary determination that issuance of the incidental take permit is neither a major Federal action that will significantly affect the quality of the human environment within the meaning of section 102(2)(C) of NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*), nor will it individually or cumulatively have more than a negligible effect on the species covered in the HCP. The Service considers the effects of the taking of the covered species to be minor because project activities resulting in incidental take of the covered species would occur infrequently (approximately every 5 years over a period of several weeks), the applicant has proposed a series of measures to avoid and minimize impacts to the covered species, and the applicant has committed to creating, restoring, and enhancing up to 40 acres of occupied or otherwise suitable habitat for the covered species within the Santa Clara River watershed. Therefore, based on this preliminary determination, the permit qualifies for a categorical exclusion under NEPA.

#### Public Comments

If you wish to comment on the permit application, draft HCP, and associated documents, you may submit comments by one of the methods in **ADDRESSES**.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public view, we

cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

#### Authority

We provide this notice under section 10 of the ESA (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.6).

Dated: November 13, 2018.

**Stephen P. Henry,**

*Field Supervisor, Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office, Ventura, California.*

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**BILLING CODE 4333-15-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

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#### Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Little River Band Trust Acquisition and Casino Project, Township of Fruitport, Muskegon County, Michigan

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** This notice advises the public that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) as lead agency, with the Township of Fruitport, County of Muskegon, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians (Tribe), Federal Highway Administration, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), serving as cooperating agencies, intends to file a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) with the EPA in connection with the Tribe's application for transfer into trust by the United States of approximately 60 acres for gaming and other purposes to be located the Township of Fruitport, Muskegon County, Michigan. This notice also announces that the DEIS is now available for public review and that a public hearing will be held to receive comments on the DEIS.

**DATES:** Written comments on the DEIS must arrive within 45 days after EPA publishes its Notice of Availability in the **Federal Register**. The date and location of the public hearing on the DEIS will be announced at least 15 days in advance through a notice to be published in local newspaper, The Muskegon Chronicle, and online at [www.littlerivereis.com](http://www.littlerivereis.com).

**ADDRESSES:** You may mail or hand-deliver written comments to Mr. Timothy LaPointe, Midwest Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Midwest Region, Norman Pointe II Building, 5600 West American Boulevard, Suite 500, Bloomington,

Minnesota 55347. Please include your name, return address, and the caption: "DEIS Comments, Little River Band Trust Acquisition and Casino Project," on the first page of your written comments. See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice for addresses where the DEIS is available for review.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Felix Kitto, Regional Environmental Protection Specialist, Division of Environmental, Facilities, Safety and Cultural Resource Management (DEFSCRM), Bureau of Indian Affairs, Midwest Region, Norman Pointe II Building, 5600 West American Boulevard, Suite 500, Bloomington, Minnesota 55347; phone: (612) 725-4597; email: [felix.kitto@bia.gov](mailto:felix.kitto@bia.gov). Information is also available online at [www.littlerivereis.com](http://www.littlerivereis.com).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Public review of the DEIS is part of the administrative process for the evaluation of the Tribe's application to the BIA for the Federal trust acquisition of approximately 60 acres in the Township of Fruitport, Muskegon County, Michigan, upon which the Tribe proposes to develop a casino, hotel, parking, and other supporting facilities. A Notice of Intent was published in the **Federal Register** on September 21, 2015, as well as published in The Muskegon Chronicle. The BIA held a public scoping meeting for the project on October 15, 2015, at Fruitport Middle School, 3113 East Pontaluna Road, Fruitport, Michigan 49415.

*Background:* The Tribe's Proposed Project consists of the following components: (1) The transfer of an approximately 60-acre property from fee to trust status; (2) issuance of a Secretarial Determination by the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) under Section 20 of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) that gaming on the project site would be in the best interest of the Tribe and not detrimental to the surrounding community (25 U.S.C. 2719 (b)(1)(A)); and (3) development of the trust parcel and adjacent land owned by the Tribe, totaling approximately 86.5 acres, with a variety of uses including a casino, hotel, conference center, parking, and other supporting facilities. The proposed casino-hotel resort would include a hotel, a convention center, several restaurant facilities, and parking facilities. Access to the project site would be provided via two driveways: One along Harvey Street and one along East Ellis Road. Five service driveways,

not for public use, would be located on East Ellis Road.

The following alternatives are considered in the DEIS: (1) Proposed Project; (2) Reduced Intensity Alternative; (3) Non-Gaming Alternative; (4) Custer Site Alternative and (5) No Action/No Development. Environmental issues addressed in the DEIS include geology and soils, water resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural and paleontological resources, socioeconomic conditions (including environmental justice), transportation and circulation, land use, public services, noise, hazardous materials, aesthetics, cumulative effects, and indirect and growth-inducing effects.

*Locations where the DEIS is available for review:* The DEIS will be available for review at the Fruitport Public Library located at 47 Park St., Fruitport, Michigan 49415, and online at [www.littlerivereis.com](http://www.littlerivereis.com). To obtain a compact disk copy of the DEIS, please provide your name and address in writing to Mr. Felix Kitto, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Midwest Regional Office. Contact information is listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice. Individual paper copies of the DEIS will be provided only upon payment of applicable printing expenses by the requestor for the number of copies requested.

*Public comment availability:* Comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the BIA address shown in the **ADDRESSES** section, during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask in your comment that your personal identifying information be withheld from public review, the BIA cannot guarantee that this will occur.

**Authority:** This notice is published pursuant to Sec. 1503.1 of the Council of Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508) and Sec. 46.305 of the Department of the Interior Regulations (43 CFR part 46), implementing the procedural requirements of the NEPA of 1969, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4371, *et seq.*), and is in the exercise of authority delegated to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs by 209 DM 8.

Dated: November 9, 2018.

**Tara Sweeney,**

*Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

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**BILLING CODE 4337–15–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Indian Affairs

[190A2100DD/A0A501010.999900 253G]

#### Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Campo Wind Energy Project, San Diego, California

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** This notice advises the public that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), as lead agency, with the Campo Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the Campo Indian Reservation (Tribe) as a cooperating agency, intends to gather information necessary for preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Campo Wind Project, located on the Campo Indian Reservation (Reservation) in southeastern San Diego County, approximately 60 miles east of San Diego, California. Construction of the Campo Wind Project is subject to BIA approval of a lease and sublease, which, as proposed, is a major Federal action under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended. A brief description of the proposed action is provided below in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section.

This notice also announces a public scoping meeting to identify potential issues, concerns, and alternatives to be considered in the EIS. The scoping process will include notice to the public and Federal, State, local, and Tribal agencies of the proposed action.

**DATES:** Written comments on the scope and implementation of this proposal must arrive by 11:59 p.m. on December 21, 2018. The date and location of the public hearing on the EIS will be announced at least 15 days in advance through a notice to be published in local newspapers (The San Diego Union Tribune and The San Diego Business Journal) and online at: [www.campowind.com](http://www.campowind.com).

**ADDRESSES:** The public may mail or hand-carry written comments to Ms. Amy Dutschke, Regional Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, California 95825. You may also submit comments through email to Mr. Dan (Harold) Hall, Acting

Chief, Division of Environmental, Cultural Resource Management and Safety, Bureau of Indian Affairs, at [harold.hall@bia.gov](mailto:harold.hall@bia.gov). More information can be found in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this notice.

Please include the commenter's name, title, return address, and "EIS Scoping Comments, Campo Wind Project, San Diego County, California," on the first page of the written comments. The scoping meeting will be held at Campo Indian Reservation Tribal Hall, 36190 Church Road (BIA Road 10), Campo, California 91906.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Dan (Harold) Hall Acting Chief, Division of Environmental, Cultural Resource Management and Safety, Bureau of Indian Affairs, by telephone at (916) 978–6041, or by email at [harold.hall@bia.gov](mailto:harold.hall@bia.gov).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Project Description**

BIA approval is required for a lease and sublease to build and operate a commercial wind power generation facility capable of generating up to 252 megawatts (MW) of electricity.

The project would include the generation of up to 252 MW consisting of up to 60 turbines. The project study area covers approximately 2,200 acres on the Campo Indian Reservation. The total area that would be disturbed by the project would be substantially less. The turbines proposed for the project would range from 2.5 MW to 4.2 MW in maximum output rating per turbine, tubular steel towers, with a rotor diameter of approximately 450 feet, a hub height of approximately 361 feet, and a total height of turbine (highest point) of approximately 586 feet. Each turbine would be set on a concrete foundation. Turbines would be connected by an underground electrical collection system to a project collector substation. The collector substation would be sited on approximately 2 acres and would consist of a graveled, fenced area containing transformer and switching equipment and an area for vehicle parking. A new 230 kV overhead generation transmission line would be constructed, on the Campo Indian Reservation and partially outside on private lands, from the project collector substation on the Reservation to a San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) substation/switchyard that would be constructed on private lands adjacent to the Sunrise Powerlink northeast of the Reservation. The SDG&E substation/switchyard and related transmission line improvements will be subject to approval by the County of San Diego,